

March 20, 1989

H. Gilbert Weil 163 Candlewick Lane Bridgewater, N.J. 08807

Chief, Site Investigation and Compliance Branch Emergency and Remedial Response Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 26 Federal Plaza New York, New York 10278

Attention: SCP - Carlstadt Project Officer

Dear Sir:

Attached is the February 1989 Progress Report for the RI/FS project at the SCP Carlstadt Site. This report has been prepared by Dames & Moore, on behalf of the Committee representing the respondents named in the Administrative Order on Consent No. II CERCLA-50114, in accordance with Paragraph 28B of the Order.

Progress in February, 1989 for the Operable Unit One FS was reported in the Interim Status Report on Phase II Activities, submitted on February 24, 1989. Also, the latest revision of the Work Plan for the FS/FOU was submitted on February 15, 1989. The latest revision of the Scope of Treatability Studies for the FS/FOU was submitted on February 27, 1989. Treatability studies are proceeding on schedule, and analytical results are expected in time to be useful in the FS report; because that information is late, more alternatives than normal have passed through Phase I and Phase II screening, increasing the scope of study in Phase III.

Very truly yours,

H. G. We11

HGH/smd/326+

CC: Chief, Superfund Branch Office of Regional Counsel

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Room 437

26 Federal Plaza

New York, New York 10278

Mr. W. L. Warren - CSPS&C

ATTACHMENT 1

SCP RI/FS PROGRESS REPORT FEBRUARY, 1989

PROGRESS AND STATUS

- 1. Slug testing of the five off-site water table aquifer wells, the four off-site till aquifer wells, and the three existing on-site till aquifer wells was completed.
- 2. Sampling of the nine off-site wells and the on-site bedrock well was completed on February 13.
- 3. A meeting was held on February 14 with EPA, ETC, Trillium and Dames & Moore to discuss laboratory deliverables. It was agreed that ETC will produce reports which contain substantially more QA/QC documentation than those previously issued for the project.
- 4. The pump test of the on-site bedrock well was initiated on February 28. Prior to starting the test, a water sample was collected from the bedrock well for volatile organic analysis.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The EPA requested additional details regarding the frequency of water level monitoring during the pump test. While POP Revision No. 9 provided a monitoring schedule for the pumped (bedrock) well, no monitoring schedule was provided for the observation wells. The clarification sought by the EPA was provided in a February 24, 1989 letter to Janet Feldstein.

In a telefax received by Dames & Moore on February 7, Ebasco pointed out an example of discrepancies they discovered between the laboratory data summaries in Appendix B of the RI Report and the raw data contained in the ETC analytical reports. Dames & Moore initiated a complete comparative evaluation of all laboratory data (well over 100 samples, including field and trip blanks). The example provided by Ebasco was found to be the only case where reported data were in conflict (for the volatile fraction of the sample only). A discussion of this review, and corrected tables and figures from the RI Report, were transmitted to the EPA on February 17. With respect to the RI Report, it was concluded that the interpretations provided therein were valid.

SCHEDULE

The combined POP 8/POP 9 program continues to be approximately 2.5 weeks ahead of schedule, based on the October 19, 1988 proposed schedule transmitted to the USEPA. However, this schedule gain may be offset by the increased time required to prepare and validate laboratory deliverables, as noted in item (3) above. The October 19, 1988 schedule was predicated on providing laboratory reports similar to those previously issued for the project.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES - MARCH 1989

- 1. Complete the pump test on the on-site bedrock well, and re-sample the well for volatile organic compounds.
- Install continuous-trace water level recorders per POP Revision No. 9
 after completion of the pump test.
- 3. Continue the laboratory analytical program, including preparation of additional QA/QC documentation for the reports.

4. Continue the evaluation of hydrogeologic information collected during the investigations.

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